

City of



Manchester

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer

(A. BROWN RITCHIE, M.B., C.M.).

For the Year ended 31st December, 1916.



MANCHESTER:

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S T A F F .

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER :

A. BROWN RITCHIE, M.B., C.M.

ASSISTANT SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICERS :

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SCHOOL NURSES :

<i>a</i> Nurse ANDREW.	<i>c</i> Nurse MARSDEN.
„ BLEZARD.	„ McGRATH.
„ CHRISTIAN.	„ MOSS.
„ CLAYTON.	<i>a</i> „ NODEN.
<i>a</i> „ DICKINSON.	„ RICHINGS.
„ EVATT.	„ SHANN.
„ GENTLES.	„ TORROP.
„ KIRWAN.	„ TOOTHILL.
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„ MAITLAND.	

SCHOOL DENTISTS :

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<i>a</i> AMOS BROOKS, L.D.S. (do.)	

CLERICAL STAFF.

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<i>a</i> HARRY HINSLEY.	<i>a</i> LIONEL BATEMAN.
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<i>a</i> ARTHUR DUNKS.	ERNEST WOLSTENCROFT.
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EMILY HOWARD (temp.).	AGNES ROSCOE.
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<i>a</i> On Military duty.	<i>b</i> Half-time duty.
<i>c</i> Resigned.	<i>d</i> Died.

EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER.

The Medical Officer begs to submit the following report on the work done by his Department during the twelve months ended 31st December, 1916.

PREFACE.

During the year under report the work carried out by the School Medical Officer's Department has, as in the previous year, been greatly modified on account of interference with staff and difficulties in connection with the securing treatment by agencies other than those under the control of the School Medical Officer. Every effort has been made so to modify the work as to secure the utmost benefit to the greatest number of children under our care. At the same time there has been added to the work previously carried on:—

(1) The supervision and supply of cases to the Alice Briggs Home for Delicate Girls.

(2) The treatments of children attending the New Islington Clinic.

(3) The extension of the provision of medicaments for the treatment of Ringworm to those attending at the Central Offices.

(4) The supervision and supply of cases to the After Care Committee established in connection with All Souls' School, Ancoats.

(5) The supervision and supply of suitable cases to the Country School at Mobberley.

(6) The training of women for Red Cross work.

In connection with the latter, lectures covering a period of six weeks were given, and thirty-nine candidates were successful in passing the requisite examination, and as in the case of the previous classes the utmost endeavour was made to render these nurses useful and capable of doing responsible work at the end of their course.

A large amount of time has also been occupied in the examination and certification of mentally defective and in what is equivalent to the medical after care of children discharged from the various residential institutions carried on by the Committee.

The staff was further depleted by two more permanent clerks being called for military duty, and temporary lady clerks have been appointed in their places.

The scheme of work has altered little in other respects from that which was carried on in the previous year.

At the New Islington School Clinic which was opened in January by the commencement of a Dental Clinic for a specified age group of children, the work was gradually extended as occasion offered, by the inclusion of treatment for Defective Vision and for Eye Diseases. This Clinic has since then been further developed so as to include the treatment of Skin Diseases and Diseases of the Ear.

The difficulty of obtaining treatment for school children at the various Hospitals was during the past twelve months accentuated, and it was also noteworthy that on account of the mothers and elder members of the family being at work and the father in the Army it has often been exceedingly difficult to make any arrangements for children attending for medical treatment either at Hospitals, Private Surgeries, or at the Clinics. The same causes have had a decided effect in rendering it more difficult to ensure the cleanliness of school children.

The present report as last year is divided into three sections.

PART I.

The following table shows the number of children examined, treated or inspected by members of the Medical Staff during the past year:—

Table I.

EXAMINATION BY DOCTORS.

In School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,452
General cases at Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,292
Special Examination of Mentally Defectives, etc....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,674
Ringworm at Office	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,351
Treatment at School Clinics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,932
Inspection of Children prior to going to Country	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
School	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,347

BY SCHOOL DENTISTS.

Examinations in Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,772
Treatment at School Clinics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,934

INSPECTION BY NURSES.

Visits to Homes and inspection in Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26,916
Special Examinations for Verminous conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,683

Total 79,353

The above figures, however, do not include the children examined by Dr. D'Ewart during his investigations into the occurrence of Infectious Diseases. Table II. shows the number of children examined in schools by Assistant Medical Officers. It is to be noted that during the current year the Medical Officers have been practically entirely occupied in treatment, and that the work represented in this table in ordinary years has been largely supplemented by reports sent in by School Nurses and others. The result of which supplementary work is seen in the returns in connection with the children examined and treated at the School Clinics or at the Central Office. These cases, although all "Specials" include children who, in normal times, would have been among those examined in routine.

Table II.—B. Groups other than "Code."

	Intermediate Group (other than 8 years).	Special Cases.	Re-examinations (i.e., No. of Children re-examined).
Boys	744	.....
Girls	708	.....
TOTALS	1,452	.....

Table III. shows the defects from which the children were found to be suffering.

Table III.

Defect or Disease.	Code Groups.		Special.	
	Number referred for treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation but not referred for treatment.	Number referred for treatment.	Number requiring to be kept under observation but not referred for treatment.
Malnutrition	13	...
Uncleanliness—				
Head	26	...
Body	7	...
Skin—				
Ringworm :				
Head	9	...
Body	1	...
Scabies
Impetigo	17	...
Other Disease	6	...
Eye—				
Defective Vision and Squint...	597	...
External Eye Disease	110	...
Ear—				
Defective Hearing	96	...
Ear Disease	96	...
Teeth. Dental Disease (see N.B. (2) below).				
Nose and Throat—				
Enlarged Tonsils	8	...
Adenoids	75	...
Enlarged Tonsils and Adenoids	56	...
Defective Speech	69	...
Heart and Circulation—				
Heart Disease :				
Organic	10	...
Functional	5	...
Anæmia	118	...
Lungs—				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis :				
Definite	1	...
Suspected	11	...
Chronic Bronchitis	27	...
Other Disease	1	...
Epilepsy	2	...
Nervous System—				
Chorea	5	...
Other Disease	6	...
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis :				
Glands	6	...
Bones and Joints	2	...
Other Forms	1	...
Rickets	13	...
Deformities	8	...
Other Defects or Diseases	21	...

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Dental treatment for children of six years of age and attending schools within reasonable distance of either of the School Clinics has been undertaken through the year. The amount of work done is shown under the headings of School Clinics on pages 19 and 21 and 22 of the Report. While casual cases are not encouraged an appreciable number have received treatment during the year, but this has been mainly confined to the immediate alleviation of pain. Other cases of Defective Teeth which come under observation are followed up in the usual way by the School Nurses, and the parents are urged to obtain treatment either at a private Dentist or the Dental Hospital.

The time of the four Assistant Medical Officers has been apportioned as follows:—Two doctors were required for the School Clinics; almost the whole of one doctor's time for X-Ray treatment; and the office Clinic absorbed the time of one doctor equal to $7\frac{1}{2}$ days. This left $4\frac{1}{2}$ days available for other work, and this time was mainly occupied by the examination of cases for the Special Schools and the Residential Schools for Epileptics, Cripples, Pre-Phthisical and Delicate Girls, etc.

PART II.

“ FOLLOWING-UP ” AND TREATMENT.

1. *Cleansing of Verminous Children.*

This work necessitates a very large number of inspections by the Nurses, but has been kept in operation as far as possible, although during the year many causes have intervened to interfere with the use of a nursing staff for this special purpose. Before the end of the year, however, it was found possible to resume systematic inspections of whole schools, and this is being continued.

Table IV.

Cleansing of Verminous Children (Children Act, 1908).

Year.	No. of Children Cleansed at Cleansing Station.	No. of Children Cleansed by Parents on receipt of Cleansing Notice.	No. of Children that could not be found or had left School (14 years old).	No. of Children who were partially Cleansed by Parents and are still being visited by School Nurses.	Total number of Cleansing Notices issued during the year.
1915	413	630	378	1,009	2,017
1916	117	569	366	1,170	667

2. *By Prosecution.*

Below is given a table showing the number of parents prosecuted under the Children's Act on account of allowing their children to become verminous after having been cleansed at the Cleansing Station, and the amount of fine inflicted.

The number of prosecutions and re-prosecutions is slightly in excess of the year 1915.

Table V.

Prosecution Cases (Children Act, 1908).—1916.

Fines.

2/-	2/6 and Costs.	5/- and Costs	10/-	Total.
3	4	15	4	26

Re-prosecution Cases.

Fines.

2/6	10/-	Total.
1	2	3

3. *By reference to the Rota.*

In certain instances we endeavour to apply pressure on delinquent parents by a summons before the Rota, and the undermentioned table shows the cases so summoned.

Table VI.

Defects.	Number of Defects.
Clothing ... ..	...
Footgear ... ..	...
Cleanliness of Head	4
" Body	4
Nutrition ... ..	...
Nose and Throat	5
External Eye Disease	1
Ear Disease ... ..	...
Teeth	3
Heart and Circulation	1
Lungs ... ..	...
Nervous System ... ..	...
Skin	5
Rickets	3
Deformities	1
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary ... ..	...
Speech ... ..	...
Mental Condition ... ..	...
Vision and Squint... ..	22
Hearing ... ..	...
Miscellaneous ... ..	...
Total	49
Total Number of Cases—43.	

4. *By Special Interview with the School Medical Officer.*

A much more satisfactory way of dealing with delinquent parents is to specially summons them to appear before the School Medical Officer to explain their reasons for not obtaining the necessary medical, or other, treatment which their children require.

Unfortunately it is only possible to carry on this work to a very limited extent, but the results as a rule are very satisfactory.

The number of cases interviewed during the past year is shown on Table VII.

Table VII.

Special Examinations by the School Medical Officers.

Defects.	Number of Cases.
Clothing	4
Footgear ... ..	...
Cleanliness of Head	30
Body	6
Nutrition	2
Nose and Throat	10
External Eye Disease	6
Ear Disease	4
Teeth	12
Heart and Circulation... ..	8
Lungs	3
Nervous System ... ..	...
Skin	5
Rickets	9
Deformities	2
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary	2
Speech ... ..	...
Mental Condition ... ..	...
Vision and Squint	88
Hearing ... ..	...
Miscellaneous	14
Total Defects	205
Total Number of Children—205.	

5. *By Exclusion.*

The reasons for the exclusion of children from school fall under three headings:—

1. In the majority of cases the child is excluded on account of infectious and contagious disease.
2. Because the child is unfit on account of illness to attend school.
3. In order to enforce parents to carry out such treatment as is required for the child.

Table VIII.

Exclusions from School by School Medical Officer during the Year 1916.

Condition.											Number of Defects.
Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Footgear	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cleanliness of Head	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Body	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Nutrition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nose and Throat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
External Eye Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	426
Ear Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Heart and Circulation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Lungs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Skin	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,430
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Deformities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Speech	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mental Condition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Vision and Squint	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Hearing	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Infectious Diseases, including Suspects	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Total ...											3,457
Total Number of Children—3,444.											

It is to be noted that the greater proportion of these exclusions are for Skin Diseases, and that a very large number are the exclusions for Ringworm for the very short period previous to their being authorised to attend school for supervision.

6. *By Observation and Treatment at the Central Offices.*

A steadily increasing number of children is being referred by Principal Teachers, School Nurses, or Attendance Officers for examination. This increase is of course the direct result of the cessation of medical inspection as carried out in the schools previous to the War. Many of the children referred either by Teachers or through the Rota are those

absent from school for prolonged periods, and the supervision of such cases may extend over months or years, and on the whole this work tends to be cumulative. Such cases are not removed from the list until they are cured or have entered an Institution for treatment, or have passed beyond school age.

The treatment of cases of Scabies has also added considerably to the list. With the exception of those cases whose homes are within reasonable distance to Stretford Road Clinic all cases of Scabies are kept under observation at the Central Offices until they are cured.

Table IX.

*Supervision of Ailing Children at Offices.
Completed Cases.*

Nature of Defects.	Number of Cases, 1916.
Clothing	1
Footgear ... ..	...
Cleanliness of Head	4
" Body	2
Nutrition	5
Nose and Throat	25
External Eye Disease	35
Ear Disease	15
Teeth	6
Heart and Circulation... ..	117
Lungs	199
Nervous System	18
Skin	86
Rickets	1
Deformities	28
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary	36
Speech	1
Mental Condition	21
Vision and Squint	98
Hearing ... ..	...
Miscellaneous	24
Total	732
Total Cases—656.	

The undermentioned table gives the reasons for the removal of the child's name from our books.

Table X.—1916.

Fit for School	...	...	...	...	...	325
Gone, no trace	...	...	...	...	...	58
Left (over age)	...	...	...	...	...	61
Admitted to Summerseat	...	...	...	...	...	24
„ Alice Briggs	...	...	...	...	...	10
„ Swinton House	...	...	...	...	...	17
„ Soss Moss	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Blind School	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Hospitals	...	...	...	...	...	15
Exempt on Medical Grounds	...	...	...	...	...	15
Referred to other Departments	...	...	...	...	...	126
						<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	...	656

The numbers of cases under supervision at the Office Clinic during the year were as follows:—

On books at the commencement of the year	...	734
Added during the year	...	1,171
Taken off during the year	...	656
Remaining at the end of the year	...	1,249
No. of Examinations	...	3,292

7. *By School Nurses' Visits.*

The majority of cases coming under observation are followed up by the School Nurses, who advise medical treatment where required, or suggest treatment in other cases. The parents of all children requiring medical treatment are notified by card of the child's defect.

As stated in an earlier part of the report the Nurses are now visiting schools for the purpose of reporting children obviously ailing. Most of the cases for our School Clinics are obtained in this way.

The number of visits made by the Nurses to the schools and to the homes of children whose disease or defect has been remedied totals 34,599.

ACTUAL TREATMENT OF CASES UNDERTAKEN BY THE EDUCATION
AUTHORITY.

8. *Ringworm.*

To the supervision of cases of this disease actual treatment has been added during the past year, and this is a branch of the work which has not been curtailed. On the contrary every effort to eradicate the disease has been carried on even more vigorously. The treatment takes the form of the application of X-Rays and the provision of ointment along with the necessary cutting of the hair and the supply of patterns for caps necessary while the child attends school under permit. It is found that although broken appointments are numerous they are less so than when the cases were under observation only, and the statistics show that the number of actual cases is steadily diminishing—the number of scalp cases markedly so.

The regulations with regard to attendance of Ringworm cases at school continue as heretofore, and the following table gives the figures of cases coming under supervision.

Table XI.

OFFICE CLINIC.

Cases on books at the commencement of the year	528
New cases added during the year	... .. 1,241
Cases withdrawn during the year	... .. 1,363
Remaining at the end of the year	... .. 406

For the whole of the City the figures are as follows:—

Cases on books at the commencement of the year	687
Cases added during the year	... .. 1,545
Cases withdrawn during the year	... .. 1,732
Cases remaining at the end of the year	... .. 500

9. *Treatment by X-Rays.*

The number of children treated for Ringworm of the scalp by X-Rays was 351, as against 242 cases in the year 1915. These 351 cases necessitated 916 areas being treated. Out of the cases treated during the year 226 were discharged as cured and 11 left the district. The remainder are still under observation and treatment. As was intended more time was given up to this treatment, and for many months seven half-days per week were devoted to the work.

The number of examinations made during the year of Ringworm cases attending the Central Offices was 7,351.

10. *Treatment at the School Clinics.*

The treatment of Minor Ailments and Dental Caries has been carried out at the Stretford Road Clinic to almost the same degree as during the latter few months of the previous year, the only difference being that for the period of about two months Dentistry was only undertaken on 5 half-days per week. This was due to the fact that we were unable to procure the services of a Dentist for a longer period after the first temporary Dentist joined His Majesty's Forces. When the second temporary Dentist undertook military work, a portion of the time of the New Islington Clinic Dentist, who was engaged full time, was given over to the Stretford Road Clinic.

As a rule the attendance of the scholars at the Clinic has been satisfactory. The greatest difficulty in procuring constant attendance has occurred amongst Dental Cases, prolonged Ear Cases, and chronic Eye Diseases, but these, however, were comparatively few, and the exertion of slight pressure upon the parents resulted in the more regular attendance of the delinquents.

STRETTFORD ROAD CLINIC.

The following figures show the various cases whose treatment was completed during the year, or whose names were removed from the Clinic list for other reasons, *i.e.*, nothing more could be done, removal from the district, etc.:—

Defective Vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	704
External Eye Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	188
Ear Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Ringworm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	369
Other Skin Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	692
Miscellaneous Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
								<hr/>
Total								2,219

Of this total 45 children either attained the age of 14 years or left the City before treatment was completed. Of the cases treated for defective vision glasses were prescribed and obtained in 566 cases, while glasses were not required in 138 instances. In order to deal with these 2,219 children, 12,176 examinations were necessary, and, including cases not yet discharged, the total number of examinations made at the Clinic during the year amounted to 18,261.

Owing to several of the Dentists making reports on the work they had done, I have made the following synopsis of the work for the year:—

DENTAL TREATMENT (STRETTFORD ROAD CLINIC).

Number of Cases brought under supervision during this period	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,059	} 1,267
Number of Casual Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	208	
„ Cases completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	705	
„ Cases partially treated and further treat- ment refused	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26	
„ Cases where treatment was refused	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	193	
„ Cases left and gone	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	
„ Cases not requiring any treatment...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	116	
„ appointments made	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,826	
„ appointments broken	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	813	
„ Extractions with Gas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	
„ Extractions with Local Anæsthetics	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,705	
„ Extractions without either of the above..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	286	
„ Amalgam Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	502	
„ Cement Fillings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	70	
„ Teeth treated with Silver Nitrate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22	
„ Dressings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	
„ Permanent Teeth extracted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	
„ Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,802	
„ Children with 1 to 12 Permanent Teeth present	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	614	

NEW ISLINGTON CLINIC.

The School Clinic at New Islington was opened in the middle of January for Dentistry only, this work being undertaken on six half-days per week. This amount of dentistry work continued only until July. During the summer vacation the School Dentist obtained a commission, and only continued at work for a few days after the summer holidays. The services of a full-time Lady Dentist were subsequently secured. She has treated Dental Caries on eight half-days per week at the New Islington Clinic, while the other three half-days have been given to the Stretford Road Clinic.

In February the Clinic was opened on eight half-days per week for the treatment of Defective Vision, and later in the year it was found possible to undertake the treatment of External Eye Disease on two half-days per week, which were previously given over to cases of Defective Vision.

The undermentioned table shows how the work was allotted for the latter half of the year.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ATTENDANCE OF CASES AT THE SCHOOL CLINIC,
NEW ISLINGTON, ANCOATS.

<i>Day.</i>					<i>Disease or Defect Treated.</i>
Monday,	a.m.	...	...	...	Defective Vision. Dentistry.
„	p.m.	...	...	...	Defective Vision.
Tuesday,	a.m.	...	...	...	Eye Disease. Dentistry.
„	p.m.	...	...	...	Defective Vision.
Wednesday,	a.m.	...	...	...	Dentistry.
Thursday,	a.m.	...	...	...	Defective Vision. Dentistry.
„	p.m.	...	...	...	Defective Vision.
Friday,	a.m.	...	...	...	Eye Disease. Dentistry.
„	p.m.	...	...	...	Defective Vision.
Saturday,	a.m.	...	...	...	Dentistry.

Much valuable work has been done at this Clinic, and there is still plenty of material awaiting attention.

The following table shows the number of cases treated at the Clinic and whose names have been removed from the Clinic list on account of treatment being completed, or on account of the children removing from the district, etc.

Defective Vision	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	621
External Eye Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
Miscellaneous Cases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
								<hr/>
Total ...								720

The total number of cases removed from the rolls was 735. The number of times these cases were treated was 2,105, and the number of examinations and treatments given at the Clinic during the year was 5,671.

The following is the report of the School Dentist for the New Islington Clinic:—

REPORT ON THE DENTAL WORK AT THE NEW ISLINGTON CLINIC FOR THE YEAR JANUARY—DECEMBER, 1916.

The work has been carried on according to the general rules laid down by the Board of Education, viz.:—Examination of the six year olds in school, and their subsequent treatment at the Clinic.

The method of procedure is as follows:—

The children are examined at school by the Dentist and notice of defects and a form of application for treatment is forwarded to the parents of such children as require it. The child is then brought to the Clinic, usually, at least for the first time by the mother, and another examination of the mouth is made, when the reason for the patient's attendance and the treatment proposed to be carried out is generally explained to the mother. When this plan is adopted I notice that the patient seldom breaks his appointment, and therefore the work in his mouth is completed.

It would be of great advantage if teachers urged upon the children under their charge, the necessity of attending the Clinic, as I have noticed that in the schools where this is done there have been very few broken appointments.

Treatment at the Clinic has been as follows:—

A total of 706 children were examined in school, and of these 632 required treatment; in 474 cases treatment was accepted, 20 did not reply, and 138 sent definite refusals.

The actual number of appointments made for treatment was 1,759, while the appointments broken numbered 381. The actual number of attendances at which treatment was given was 1,921.

Casual treatment was given to 96 children where immediate relief was necessary. Dental treatment was completed with regard to 443 cases, and the kind of treatment given was as follows:—

Fillings.

Amalgam	...	...	...	...	...	...	302
Cement	...	...	...	...	...	...	81

Dressings.

115.

Extractions.

Temporary	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,474
Permanent	...	...	...	...	...	...	28

A local anæsthetic was used in 1,335 cases, while in 167 cases no anæsthetic was required. In the children examined 122 were found having no permanents erupted, while 584 had from 1 to 14 permanents erupted and in 218 cases caries had already begun in the permanents.

The following table gives the particulars with regard to the number of permanent Carious Teeth:—

<i>No. of Carious Teeth.</i>							<i>No. of Children.</i>
1	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
2	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
3	..	...	...	...	...	...	38
4	...	...	...	...	...	...	30

(Signed) JESSIE I. RAMSDEN, L.D.S.,
School Dentist.

Table XII.

Treatment of defects of Children during 1916.

CONDITION.	No. of defects for which treatment was considered necessary.			No. of defects for which no report is available.	No. of defects treated.	Results of Treatment.			* No. of defects not treated.	Percentage of defects treated.
	From previous year.	New.	Total.			Remedied	Improved	Unchanged.		
Clothing	111	52	163	15	45	...	13	31.0		
Footgear	27	17	44	17	16	1	10	50.0		
Cleanliness of Head	3,569	159	4,028	2,081	1,247	666	30	48.0		
Cleanliness of Body	741	283	1,024	471	344	161	46	52.0		
Nutrition	17	17	34	11	17	4	52	66.0		
Nose and Throat	710	131	841	335	307	71	100	55.0		
External Eye Disease	569	452	1,021	558	390	61	5	45.0		
Ear Disease... ..	546	203	749	345	297	84	23	52.0		
Teeth	234	1,947	2,181	148	1,583	35	(a) 415	92.0		
Heart and Circulation	605	309	914	378	337	153	16	58.0		
Lungs	639	312	951	465	329	121	30	50.0		
Nervous System	135	97	232	151	44	22	7	33.0		
Skin	1,790	1,658	3,448	613	2,715	110	5	82.0		
Rickets	150	116	266	139	84	32	9	46.0		
Deformities... ..	16	5	21	11	4	2	4	35.0		
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	87	119	206	144	42	6	13	25.0		
Speech	1	77	78	27	40	10	...	65.0		
Mental Condition ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Vision and Squint	1,142	2,307	3,449	1219	1,704	6	(b) 280	62.0		
Hearing	182	105	287	159	95	30	3	44.0		
Miscellaneous	310	324	634	245	312	69	...	61.0		
Total	11,581	8,990	20,571	7,622	9,952	1,644	1,016	61.0		

* These cases are mainly those who have attained the age of 14 years before any treatment has been obtained or have removed from the City area.
 (a) The greater proportion of these are cases examined by the School Dental and who have refused treatment.
 (b) These cases are mainly those who left at the age of 14 years even though some treatment had been received but glasses had not been obtained.

It will be noted from this table that the percentage of cases treated has risen from 40 per cent. to 61 per cent., but it must be remembered that these cases are practically all specials and that the cessation of the routine medical inspection results in a very great diminution of the number of cases brought under observation, and in which treatment has to be obtained by other means than through the School Clinics, and mainly as a result of following up by the School Nurses and pressure by notices and otherwise. The Dental statistics also under War conditions mean that a mere fraction of the children come under observation, and that for those who do come under observation treatment is available. The statistics of the two years therefore are not comparable. It is therefore evident that the price to be paid for the restriction of the work to treatment is the actual want of knowledge of a very large number of cases hitherto under observation and followed up, and of which the proportion treated was large. This last is discounted to a certain extent by the fact that under War conditions the provision for treatment of these cases is much diminished. This diminution of outside agencies is again responsible for the percentage of treated cases not being even higher, as the Clinics in themselves are insufficient to provide treatment for the cases under observation.

DAY SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

11. *Shakespeare Street Day School for the Blind.*

The following are the figures with regard to the children under treatment at this school during the year:—

No. of cases on books, January 1st, 1916	...	...	47
No. of cases admitted during 1916	...	...	7
No. of cases leaving during 1916	...	...	11
No. of cases remaining at the end of the year 1916			43

12. *Shakespeare Street Day School for Stammerers.*

The work at this school has been continued as in previous years, and the following figures show the number of children treated.

It is to be noted that as the treatment for Stammering necessitates for its success mental development and educational progress equal to that of about a Standard III. child many of the cases found in the course of inspection and reported are not suitable for the Classes. The greater proportion of the children treated being as a matter of fact discovered by other means than routine medical inspection.

Table XIII.

<i>Classes for Stammerers.</i>							Total.
Number of children treated during 1916							Boys 44
Do. do. do.							Girls 6
Number of courses held during 1916 ... Shakespeare Street							6
*Number who had a second course							Boys 7
* Do. do.							Girls 2
Number of cases examined during 1916							59
Number of cases reported during the year							25

13. *Santa Fina Day Special School for Crippled Children.*

The work of this school was specially dealt with in the report for the year 1914, and the undermentioned table shows the number of cases dealt with:—

No. of cases on books, January 1st, 1916	48
No. of cases admitted during 1916	19
No. of cases leaving during 1916	10
No. of cases remaining at the end of the year 1916 ...	57
No. of cases recommended for Massage... ..	15

Towards the latter part of the year it was found possible to secure the voluntary services of two skilled Masseuses, and for cases in this school in which Massage is indicated treatment is now available.

INSTITUTIONAL TREATMENT.

14. *Swinton House and Parkfield Residential Schools for Crippled Children.*

The following is Mr. Telford's report for the year 1916:—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN. SWINTON HOUSE AND PARKFIELD, 1916.

The number of new cases admitted during the year is 43, whilst two cases which had already been in the schools were re-admitted for further treatment.

The number of cases discharged from the schools is 46.

These are classified as:—

Apparently cured	36
Improved	8
Unfit for further treatment at the Schools	2
	<hr/>
	46

* NOTE.—These were severe cases, and sometimes complicated by speech defect, and one course was not found sufficient to ensure a satisfactory result.

The type of case dealt with is shown by the following analysis of these 46 cases.

The 36 cases which may be regarded as cured comprise:—

Tuberculosis Disease of the Spine	...	...	...	...	5
„	„	Hip	...	...	9
„	„	Knee	...	...	2
Rickets	...	...	...	...	20
					<hr/>
					36

The eight cases, classed as “improved,” comprise three of Rickets, one each of Tuberculosis Disease of the Spine, Hip and Knee, with two cases of Club-foot.

The schools have treated during the year 158 cases. These cases consist mainly of Tuberculosis and Rickets. They are classified as follows:—

Tuberculosis Disease of the Spine	...	...	...	...	53
„	„	Hip	...	...	33
„	„	Knee	...	...	15
„	„	Foot	...	...	1
„	„	Elbow	...	...	2
Paralysis	...	...	...	...	5
Rickets	...	...	...	...	44
Talipes	...	...	...	...	4
Unclassified	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/>
					158

During the year 27 operations have been done by me at the Royal Infirmary on children from the schools; these operations have been mainly for the cure of Rickety Deformities.

The general health of the School has been satisfactory, the only incident of note having been an outbreak of Chicken Pox during June and July. Five cases only occurred and these, all of a mild type, recovered without incident.

(Sgd.) E. W. TELFORD, F.R.C.S.

15. *Summerseat House Residential School for Delicate Girls.*

The following is a report of Dr. Crawshaw, Visiting Medical Officer, for the year 1916:—

ANNUAL REPORT ON SUMMERSEAT SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1916.

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1916. The health of the children has, on the whole, been very satisfactory, any cases of sickness having been of a minor character, I am happy to say that there has been complete freedom from diseases of an infectious character. The open air life, together with the regular routine of school work and regular meals, has proved of great benefit to the children, as evidenced by the change in their appearance and gain in weight. One interesting fact, with regard to the weight of the children was, that a sharp rise was noticed in practically every case directly after the introduction of the Daylight Saving Act.

Total number of children in residence Jan. 1st, 1916...	35
,, ,, discharged during 1916 ...	44
,, ,, admitted during 1916... ..	39
Number of cases re-admitted	3
Total number of children in residence Dec. 31st, 1916..	33

In conclusion, I should like to bear testimony to the valuable assistance I have received from the Matron and Nursing Staff.

(Sgd.) C. W. CRAWSHAW, M.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer.

16. *The Alice Briggs Residential School for Delicate Children.*

This school, which was the generous gift of Mr. William Briggs, J.P. (a former Lord Mayor of Manchester), was opened during the year, the first case being sent in on May 15th. The school is for delicate girls, but differs from Summerseat inasmuch as no cases of actual or suspected Pulmonary Tuberculosis are taken there.

The children are under the immediate supervision of a Visiting Medical Officer, Doctor Stowell, who is responsible to the School Medical Officer, and a Visiting Dentist also has been appointed.

The following table shows the number and classification of children admitted to the Institution since its opening:—

Heart and Circulation	39
Lungs (not Tubercular)	2
Nervous System	8
Tuberc: Non-Pulmonary	3
Rheumatism	3
Debility	4

Of these nine were discharged and eight of them were fit to return to an ordinary school. The other case was removed from the school by the parents. The cases leaving the Institution during the year were:—

Anæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
									<hr/> 9

17. *Soss Moss Residential School for Epileptic Children.*

At the end of the year 1915 there were 49 boys and 47 girls in residence at this Institution, and during the year 15 boys and 13 girls were admitted, while 18 boys and 11 girls left the school, leaving in residence at the end of the year 1916, 46 boys and 49 girls.

Of those who left the Institution, 14 were discharged as probably cured; 14 had attained the age of 16 years; 1 died.

18. *Residential School for Mental Defectives at Sandlebridge.*

This Institution, with which is combined the provision for the permanent care of the children afterwards, is carried on by the Lancashire and Cheshire Society for the Permanent Care of the Feeble Minded.

In January, 1916, there were 39 Manchester Mentally Defective children resident at Sandlebridge. Ten were admitted during the year, one passed to the care of a neighbouring authority, one was removed owing to illness, and five passed from the care of the Education Committee, having attained their sixteenth birthday during the year, leaving 42 children still in residence on the 31st December, 1916.

19. *Day Special Schools for Mentally Defective Children.*

The following table shows the numbers of the Mentally Defective children at the four Day Special Schools in the City:—

Table XIV.

The following table gives particulars regarding the children attending the Special Schools during the year 1916:—

Attending at the beginning of 1916—

					Boys.		Girls.		Total.
Embden Street	...	...	...	...	63	...	42	...	105
Hague Street	...	...	...	...	53	...	33	...	86
Harpurhey Hall	...	...	...	...	66	...	32	...	98
Grange Street	...	...	...	...	88	...	45	...	133
					<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	270	...	152	...	422

21. PROVISION OF MEALS—*Continued*.

There were fed during the undermentioned periods:—

One month or less	...	...	...	...	...	...	564
More than one but less than two months	...	...					719
„ two	„	„	three	„	...	...	407
„ three	„	„	four	„	...	...	473
„ six	„	„	twelve	„	...	...	516
Twelve months	...	...	...	...	...	...	627
							<hr/> 3,306 <hr/>

Classification of the parents of the children who received meals during the year:—

In receipt of Parish Relief	...	...	...	...	...	247
Labourers	...	...	...	...	...	108
Widows and Widowers	...	...	...	...	...	463
Families Deserted by Fathers	...	...	...	...	...	39
Parents Legally Separated	...	...	...	...	...	18
Hawkers, Out-workers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	88
Soldiers and Sailors	...	...	...	...	...	50

Children's meals were served during the year ended 31st December, 1916, as follows:—

The number of Centres in operation during the year was	28
The total number of Meals supplied was	... ..264,108

MISCELLANEOUS.

Infectious Disease.

The procedure with regard to infectious disease remains as previously. All cases of suspected notifiable infectious or contagious diseases are reported to the Medical Officer of Health for investigation, and Dr. D'Ewart continues to visit as heretofore.

The following table shows the classes of cases referred to the Medical Officer of Health for various reasons:—

Table XV.

Condition.	Number.
Measles (either suffering or found in school before exclusion period has elapsed)	4
Whooping Cough	3
Scarlet Fever (diagnosed or suspected)	6
Suspicious Desquamation	4
„ Illness	6
Diphtheria (diagnosed or suspected)	2
Phthisis	12
Tuberculosis (other than lung)	17
Purulent Conjunctivitis	14
Scabies (other cases in home)	25
Verminous	185
Total	278

The following is Dr. D'Ewart's report on Infectious Diseases in Schools for the year 1916:—

Incidence of Infectious Disease.

The year 1916 was unique as regards the incidence of infectious disease, not so much on account of the lowness of the amount as in the distribution throughout the year. The number of cases of Measles was practically the same as in 1915, but the effect on school attendance was very distinctly less owing to the fact that the bulk of the cases occurred during the months of April, May, and June (the holiday months) instead of January, February, and March. In addition the type was distinctly mild. The number of cases of Whooping Cough was the greatest for five years, but instead of occurring in one big burst it occurred steadily throughout the whole of the twelve months. This excessive incidence of Whooping Cough was to be expected when it is remembered that the year 1915 only had about one-third of the average number of cases. The years 1915-16 taken together will give an average less than the general average. The unique feature of the year was presented by the remarkably low incidence of Scarlet Fever, less than 500 cases being reported, as compared with almost 1,600 in 1915, and over 3,000 in 1914. Unfortunately Diphtheria shows a slight increase on 1915, when we had the fewest cases yet reported. It is still unfortunate to find that some schools have far more than their fair share of Diphtheria.

Ophthalmia.

During the year particular attention has been devoted to the subject of Ophthalmia. Special enquiries have been made in all schools visited as to the presence of Sore Eyes, which includes not merely acute and chronic Conjunctivitis, but also cases of Blepharitis. It was particularly satisfactory to find so very few cases of Conjunctivitis present in the schools. Wherever present it was found that the onset had probably been very acute and the cases were immediately excluded. No school during the year showed any real outbreak of acute Ophthalmia, though as it is to be expected occasionally a class would have two or three cases. Owing to its obvious character Ophthalmia is one of the diseases which the teachers detect speedily, and in which they usually take prompt action.

All cases were reported to the Medical Officer of Health and the total number was 14.

Itch.

A curious result of the War appears to have been an increase in the incidence of Itch. These cases seem to have had an increased prevalence and have appeared not only amongst the poorer children, to which in ordinary years they are practically exclusively confined, but even in the better class schools, and on enquiry the fact is elicited that the onset is usually subsequent to the visit of a soldier to the home.

The experience of general practitioners has been similar.

JNO. D'EWART.

Examination of Teachers and other Employees.

As Medical Officer of the Day Training College, the School Medical Officer examined 71 candidates before their entries to the College, in accordance with the Form $\frac{4 \text{ T. C.}}{1916}$ of the Board of Education, and 69 others were examined under Form 825 E. on the completion of the term of training, while 4 were examined under Form 42 F. of the Board of Education for recognition as Uncertificated Teachers. 231 examinations were made of intending Teachers and all Caretakers and Window Cleaners were examined before being appointed.

A. BROWN RITCHIE,

School Medical Officer.